



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

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For Immediate Release

February 27, 2014

Marion County Man Pleads Guilty to Unemployment Insurance Fraud

South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson and the SC Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) announced that a Marion County man entered a guilty plea to unemployment insurance fraud this week.

Jonathan Waiters, 29, pleaded guilty to one count of making a false statement or misrepresentation with the intent to defraud DEW, a misdemeanor punishable by up to three years in prison.

Between November 11, 2008, and February 13, 2010, Waiters received unemployment benefits based on his weekly certifications that he was totally unemployed and earning no wages. However, an investigation by DEW found he had been gainfully employed during these weeks and intentionally falsified information about his employment and weekly wage earnings in an effort to defraud the state.

Waiters was sentenced to three years in prison which was suspended to time served. He was placed on probation for five years. While on probation, Waiters must repay DEW more than \$10,000 in restitution. In addition, he was ordered to pay a \$1,500 civil penalty to the state.

The case was investigated by DEW and prosecuted by the Attorney General's Office.

To report suspected unemployment insurance fraud, call 1.800.868.1488. Callers can remain anonymous. To learn tips on how to help prevent unemployment fraud, visit dew.sc.gov/fraud.

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